

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

- 1 1. [Previously amended] Method for representing any
2 business process or processes as a set or sets of tuples,
3 comprising the steps of:

4 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
5 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

6 displaying a selected process as a point in navigation
7 space.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 displaying selection lists, including a noun selection
4 list, a verb selection list and an attribute selection
5 list;

6 responsive to user selection of a 3-tuple including
7 noun, a verb and an attribute from said selection
8 lists, highlighting the point in navigation space
9 corresponding to said 3-tuple.

10 3. [Previously amended] The method of claim 1, further
11 comprising the steps of:

12 responsive to user selection of a zoom in action in
13 connection with a selected process point, determining
14 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

15 highlighting in a new navigation space the process
16 points referenced by selected process point
17 definitions;

18 said zoom actions displaying within nested navigation
19 space logical changes in context for navigating said
20 process space to explore or define business processes.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a zoom out action in
4 connection with a selected process point, determining
5 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

6 highlighting in a new navigation space the zoomed to
7 process point.

1 5. [Previously amended] The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising the steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a create process
4 action, accepting and storing a 3-tuple and process
5 definition in a database of generally represented
6 business processes.

1 6. [Previously amended] The method of claim 5, further
2 comprising the steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a process edit action
4 in connection with a selected process, displaying the
5 process definition corresponding to said selected
6 process for editing said selected process by said user.

1 7. [Previously amended] The method of claim 5, further
2 comprising the steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a run process action in
4 connection with a selected process from within the
5 context of all other defined business processes for an
6 organization in a multi-dimensional process space,
7 executing said process.

8 8. Canceled.

9 9. [Previously amended] System for representing any
10 business process or processes, comprising:

11 a store containing for each of a plurality of said
12 processes a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an
13 attribute; and

14 a display operable to display a selected process as a
15 point in navigation space.

1 10. [Previously amended] A program storage device
2 readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of
3 instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps
4 for representing any business processes, said method steps
5 comprising:

6 defining each of a plurality of said processes as a 3-
7 tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

8 displaying a selected process as a point in navigation
9 space; said point representing logical changes in
10 context of said navigation space for exploring or
11 defining business processes.

1 11. [Previously amended] An article of manufacture
2 comprising:

3 a computer usable medium having computer readable
4 program code means embodied therein for displaying
5 representations of any business processes, the computer
6 readable program means in said article of manufacture
7 comprising:

8 computer readable program code means for causing a
9 computer to effect defining each of a plurality of said
10 processes as a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an
11 attribute; and

12 computer readable program code means for causing a
13 computer to effect displaying a selected process as a
14 point in navigation space; said process point
15 representing logical change in context of said
16 navigation space for exploring or defining business
17 processes.

1 12. [Original] Method for representing any business
2 processes comprising the steps of:

3 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
4 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

5 displaying a selected process as a process point in
6 navigation space; and

7 nesting a first navigation space in a process point in
8 a second navigation space, said process points

9 representing logical changes in context of said
10 navigation spaces for exploring or defining business
11 processes.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of displaying said first and second navigation
3 spaces in two panels within a window display.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 13, further comprising
2 the step of displaying within each said navigation space a
3 noun list, a verb list, and an attribute list.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 14, further comprising
2 the step of highlighting a point in each panel together with
3 the corresponding entries in said lists defining the noun,
4 verb and attribute dimensions of said highlighted point.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of enabling a user to traverse nested navigation
3 space.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of

3 enclosing a process space within a plurality of process
4 points.

1 18. [Original] Method for defining any current and future
2 processes of an organization in a manner which facilitates
3 understanding, use and change, comprising the steps of:

4 providing a business process representation including a
5 set of points in a display of n-dimensional space, each
6 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
7 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
8 dimension, said set of points representing logical
9 changes in context of said n-dimensional space for
10 exploring or defining business processes; and

11
12 selecting a said point selectively to view, modify or
13 execute the business process represented by said point.

1 19. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 33~~ claim 18,

2 further comprising the step of providing in at least one of
3 said dimensions indicia the selection of which displays the
4 corresponding noun, verb or attribute entries defined by a
5 particular user.

1 20. [Original] A business process representation
2 comprising:

3 a point in n-dimensional space including at least one
4 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
5 least one attributes dimension; said process point
6 representing logical change in context of said space
7 for exploring or defining business processes.

1 21. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 representing business processes, said method steps
5 comprising

6 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
7 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

8 displaying a selected process as a process point in
9 navigation space; and

10 nesting a first navigation space in a process point in
11 a second navigation space;

12 said process points representing logical changes in
13 context of said navigation space for exploring or
14 defining business processes.

1 22. [Withdrawn] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 delivering workflow solutions that are immediately useful
5 for customers and readily modified by said customers, said
6 method steps comprising:

7 providing to a customer a generic business process
8 representation including a set of points in n-
9 dimensional space, each point including at least one
10 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
11 least one attributes dimension; and

12 enabling said customer by selecting a said point to
13 modify said representation for the process represented
14 by said point by selectively adding, deleting and
15 changing a set of actions representing said verb
16 dimension, a set of managed resource objects
17 representing said noun dimension, and a set of
18 expressions representing said attributes dimension,
19 each said expression being capable of evaluation to a
20 Boolean value.

1 23. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 capturing in workflow solutions the policies a business uses
5 to guide its activities, said method steps comprising:

6 visually displaying in a display panel a navigation
7 space and a plurality of scrollable lists including a
8 noun list, a verbs list and an attributes list;

9 responsive to selection of a noun list entry, a verbs
10 list entry, and an attributes list entry, highlighting
11 in said navigation space a point representing a process

12 tuple;

13 responsive to selection of two entries from two of said
14 lists, highlighting in said navigation space a
15 highlighted plane of points representing process tuples
16 for all entries in the list not selected;

17 responsive to selection of a highlighted point
18 displaying the definition of the process represented by
19 said highlighted point.

1 24. [Withdrawn] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for making
4 known within an overall business context processes impacted
5 by a policy, said method steps comprising:

6 visually displaying in a display panel a navigation
7 space and a plurality of scrollable lists including a
8 noun list, a verbs list and an attributes list;

9 representing in said navigation space a set of points
10 in n-dimensional space, each said point being a process

11 tuple having a verb dimension, a noun dimension, and an
12 attributes dimension;

13 responsive to selection of a policy in said attributes
14 list, highlighting in said navigation space all process
15 tuples representing process points including said
16 policy.

1 25. [Withdrawn] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for enabling
4 understanding of the mechanisms, interactions and inter-
5 relationships of a business process, said method steps
6 comprising:

7 representing said business process as a set of points
8 in n-dimensional space including at least one verb
9 dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at least
10 one attributes dimension;

11 navigating said space by selecting and opening a
12 process point to display another process
13 representation; and

14 extending said space selectively by redefining said
15 dimensions and grouping scalar definitions into super
16 scalar values.

1 26. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for defining
4 current and future processes of an organization in a manner
5 which facilitates understanding, use and change, said method
6 steps comprising:

7 providing a business process representation including a
8 set of points in n-dimensional space, each point
9 including at least one verb dimension, at least one
10 noun dimension, and at least one attributes dimension;
11 said process points representing logical changes in
12 context of said space for exploring or defining
13 business processes; and

14 selecting a said point selectively to view, modify or
15 execute the business process represented by said point.

1 27. [Withdrawn] System for representing any business
2 processes comprising:

3 means for defining each of a plurality of processes as
4 a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute;

5 means for displaying a selected process as a process
6 point in navigation space; said process point
7 representing logical changes in context of navigation
8 space for exploring or defining business processes.;
9 and

10 means for nesting a first navigation space in a process
11 point in a second navigation space.

1 28. [Original] System for defining any current and future
2 processes of an organization in a manner which facilitates
3 understanding, use and change, comprising the steps of:

4 means for providing a business process representation
5 including a set of points in n-dimensional space, each
6 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
7 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
8 dimension; said points representing logical changes in

9 context of navigation space for exploring or defining
10 business processes; and

11 means for selecting a said point selectively to view,
12 modify or execute the business process represented by
13 said point.

1 29. [Withdrawn] A business process representation,
2 comprising:

3 a point in n-dimensional space including at least one
4 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
5 least one attributes dimension;

6 said verb dimension representing a set of actions, said
7 noun dimension representing a managed resource object,
8 said attributes dimension representing a set of
9 expressions capable of evaluation to a Boolean value.

1 30. [Withdrawn] The business process representation of
2 ~~claim 37~~ claim 29, said set of actions for said verb
3 dimension including add, delete, change, and determine.

1 31. [Withdrawn] The business process representation of
2 ~~claim 37~~ claim 29, said resource objects for said noun
3 dimension including account, balance, customer, loan,
4 teller, interest.

1 32. [Withdrawn] The business process representation of
2 ~~claim 37~~ claim 29, said set of expressions for said
3 attributes dimension including less than, overdue, greater
4 than, court order, audit, null.

1 33. [Withdrawn] The business process representation of
2 ~~claim 37~~ claim 29, said verb dimension, said noun dimension,
3 and said attributes dimension comprising a process tuple
4 including a verb action, a noun object, and an attribute
5 expression.

6 34. [Withdrawn] Method for systematically defining the
7 current and future business processes of an enterprise,
8 comprising the steps of:

9 providing to a business process representation
10 including a set of points in n-dimensional space, each
11 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
12 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
13 dimension; and

14 selectively modifying said representation by
15 selectively adding, deleting and changing a set of
16 actions representing said verb dimension, a set of
17 managed resource objects representing said noun
18 dimension, and a set of expressions representing said
19 attributes dimension, each said expression being
20 capable of evaluation to a Boolean value.

1 35. [Withdrawn] The method of ~~claim 42~~ claim 34, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 modifying said representation by grouping subsets of
4 any of said dimension sets.

1 36. [Withdrawn] The method of ~~claim 43~~ claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 selectively adding to a dimension new group elements,
4 thereby combining noncontiguous sets of planes in said
5 n-dimensional space into a single plane.

1 37. [Withdrawn] The method of ~~claim 43~~ claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 selectively subsetting elements of a group of elements
4 by defining a new elements added to a set as belonging
5 to an existing element.

1 38. [Withdrawn] The method of ~~claim 42~~ claim 34, further
2 comprising the steps:

3 responsive to a first user request, prompting said user
4 for a file name and dimension names and, responsive to
5 said names, creating a new process space; and

6 responsive to a second user request, displaying to said
7 user a window selectively enabling said user to select
8 a directory and then within that directory a file or to
9 enter a name for a file, reading said file, and

10 creating a new process space main window to reflect the
11 contents of said file.

1 39. [Withdrawn] Method for enabling automatic
2 interpretation of processes, comprising the steps of:

3 defining process space as a set of points in n-
4 dimensional space, each point including at least one
5 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
6 least one attributes dimension;

7 said verb dimension, said noun dimension, and said
8 attributes dimension comprising a process tuple
9 including a verb action, a noun object, and an
10 attribute expression;

11 naming a group of points in said process space as a
12 named noun and adding said named noun to said noun
13 dimension as a noun object; and

14 selectively defining processes using existing or new
15 verbs for said named noun.

1 40. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 systematically defining the current and future business
5 processes of an enterprise, said method steps comprising:

6 providing to a business process representation
7 including a set of points in n-dimensional space, each
8 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
9 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
10 dimension; and

11 selectively modifying said representation by
12 selectively adding, deleting and changing a set of
13 actions representing said verb dimension, a set of
14 managed resource objects representing said noun
15 dimension, and a set of expressions representing said
16 attributes dimension, each said expression being
17 capable of evaluation to a Boolean value.

1 41. [Original] System for capturing in workflow solutions
2 the policies a business uses to guide its activities,
3 comprising:

4 a display panel for displaying a navigation space and a
5 plurality of scrollable lists including a noun list, a
6 verbs list and an attributes list;

7 said display panel being operable for highlighting in
8 said navigation space a point representing a process
9 tuple responsive to user selection of a noun list
10 entry, a verbs list entry, and an attributes list
11 entry;

12 means responsive to selection of two entries from two
13 of said lists, highlighting in said navigation space a
14 highlighted plane of points representing process tuples
15 for all entries in the list not selected, and
16 responsive to selection of a highlighted point
17 displaying the definition of the process represented by
18 said highlighted point.

1 60. [Withdrawn] Method for representing business processes
2 comprising the steps of:

3 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
4 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

5 displaying a selected process as a process point in
6 navigation space;

7 nesting a first navigation space in a process point in
8 a second navigation space; and

9 nesting a second process space within a first process
10 responsive to user reference to a second process in the
11 definition of said first process.

1 61. [Withdrawn] The method of claim 60, further comprising
2 the steps of

3 providing within said nested space the union of all
4 elements referenced in all process definitions within
5 said nested space as minimal values of each said
6 dimension; and

7 adjusting the values of each said dimension to
8 encompass any new user entered nouns, verbs or
9 attributes.

1 62. [Withdrawn] The method of claim 60, further comprising
2 the steps of

3 enabling a user to traverse nested navigation space;
4 and

5 responsive to said user traversing from a first process
6 space to a process space nested within a point in said
7 first process space, highlighting in the nested space
8 those process points explicitly referenced in said
9 point in said first process space.